

Family seeks justice over murder of father

By **Silver Nwokoro**

31 March 2025 | 3:22 am



The family of the late Sunday Ogofotha has appealed to the government and security agencies to ensure justice over his alleged murder at Century Hotel, Delta State.

Ogofotha, a native of Owhelogbo in Isoko North, Delta State, had traveled to his hometown for his stepbrother's burial on March 22, 2025.

However, he was later found dead under mysterious circumstances at the hotel where he lodged.

According to his wife, Rhoda Ogofotha, she last spoke with him on the morning of March 22, before he prepared for the burial.

"We talked till 7:35 a.m. He told me he was going to take his bath and prepare for a busy day. Later that evening, I realized he hadn't called me, which was unlike him," she recounted.

The following morning, she received a call from a relative, Oghenero, stating that her husband was missing and had not been seen at the burial.

"I was shocked and confused. How could they say they were looking for him?" she said.

Efforts to locate him led the family to Century Hotel, where the manager claimed he had checked out. However, the family disputed this.

"That is a lie from the pit of hell, we spoke that morning. Where could he have checked out to?" Rose questioned.

Soon after, his relative received a ransom message from an unknown number, claiming Ogofotha was in captivity and demanding N20 million for his release.

“The message reads: “We just want to inform you that your brother is in our custody. If you want to see him alive, follow our instructions. We are kidnappers,” she revealed.

Investigations took a dramatic turn when family members, aided by vigilantes, searched the hotel premises and detected a foul odour. Suspicious activity involving an ambulance raised further concerns.

“They saw hotel staff moving a wrapped object into the ambulance. When they confronted them, they found it was my husband’s body,” she narrated.

Delta State Police Public Relations Officer, SP Bright Edafe, confirmed that the hotel manager and three others had been arrested.

“According to the manager, two unidentified men approached him, offering N5 million in exchange for an item from the deceased. Later, they disappeared, having allegedly killed Ogofotha and escaped through an exit door,” Edafe said.

He stated that authorities have launched a full investigation into the case.

The grieving family continues to demand justice for the slain father. “We just want justice. My husband did not deserve to die this way,” Rose pleaded.